

Candidate Plus Initiatives - \$2.3M



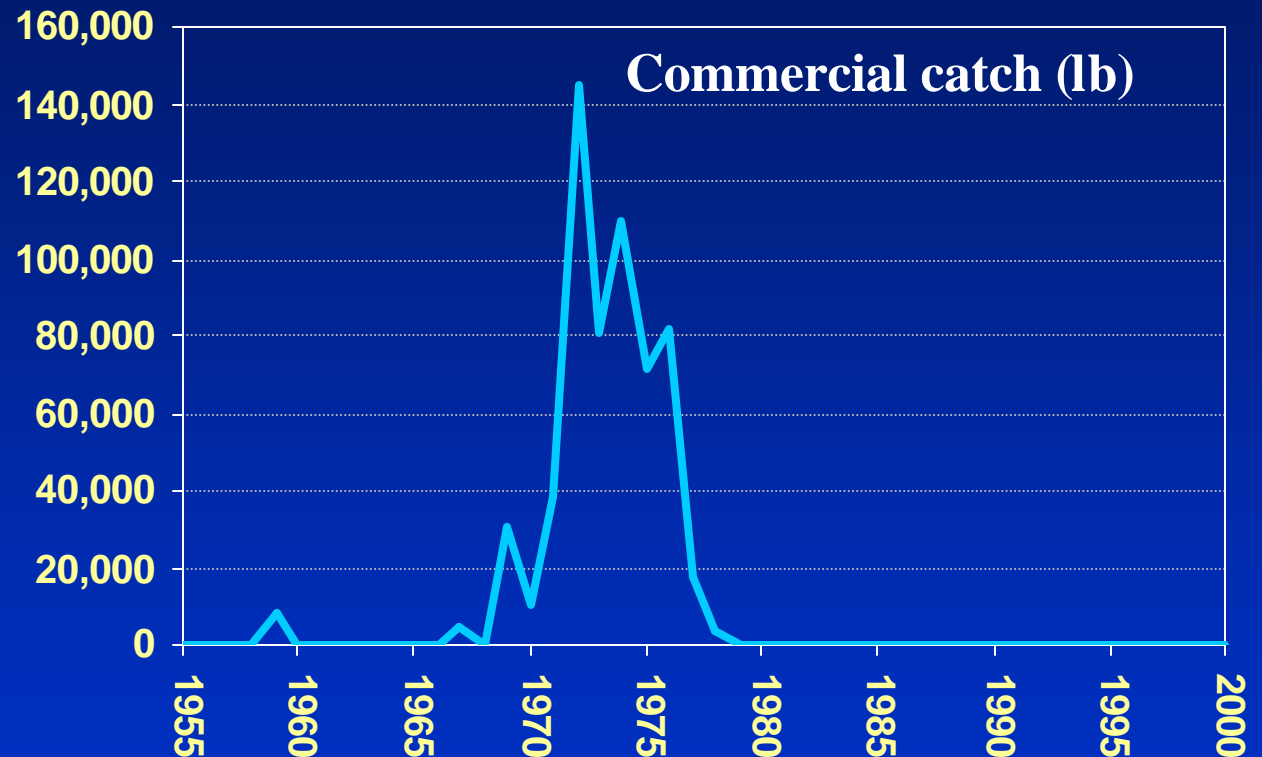
1) Recovery of endangered white abalone, which is on the brink of extinction (\$1.3M)

2) Staffing and funds in regions and centers for research, status reviews, & outreach on candidate species (groupers, rockfishes, sturgeon, etc.) (\$1.0M)



White Abalone Plight

- Likely to become extinct in 10 years without substantive intervention
- 99% decline in abundance since 1970s
- Sparse distribution precludes spawning



What needs to be done to conserve and recover white abalone?

- Inventory white abalones and their habitat
- Relocate white abalone into breeding colonies
- Develop aquaculture for preservation and restocking

Candidates: What Should NMFS Do?

Be proactive! - **before** ESA listing becomes necessary NMFS should:

- *conduct species status reviews*
- *conduct studies to obtain information to conserve candidate species and to address ESA petitions*
- *promote conservation efforts for candidates*
- *engage in community outreach*

